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**Discuss secondary sources of law in Nigeria.**

**What are sources of law?**

Sources of law are the origins of [laws](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law), the binding rules that enable any state to govern its territory. The term "source of law" may sometimes refer to the sovereign or to the seat of power from which the law derives its validity.Majorly, there are five sources of Nigerian Law :Customary and Islamic law, Received English Law, Delegated Legislation, Judicial Precedents, Law reports and Textbooks. These sources are further classified into primary and secondary sources of Law.

**Secondary sources of law in Nigeria**

Secondary sources of law are background resources. They explain, interpret and analyse. They include encyclopaedias, law reviews, textbooks, dictionary.

**ENCYCLOPEDIAS**

Legal encyclopaedias contain brief, broad summaries of legal topics, providing introductions to legal topics and explaining relevant terms of art. They also provide citations to relevant primary law and sometimes give citations to relevant major law review articles.

#### LAW reviews

**Law reviews are another great secondary source for legal research, valuable for the depth in which they analyse as well as their extensive references to other sources.**

Law reviews are scholarly publications, usually edited by Nigerian law students. They contain both lengthy articles and shorter essays by professors and lawyers, as well as comments, notes. **Law review articles often focus on new or emerging areas of law and they can offer more critical commentary than a legal encyclopaedia.** Some law reviews are dedicated to a topic, such as gender, environmental law, and will include in their contents the proceedings of a wide range of panels and symposia on timely legal issue.

**Dictionaries**: in law we have specialized dictionaries like the black law dictionary. It covers terms used in the various branches of the legal profession, as civil law, criminal law, and corporate law. A comprehensive legal dictionary adds to its body of standard English entries many words and phrases that have made their way into modern legal practice. Such a specialized dictionary is useful for law students and for attorneys themselves.

Secondary sources are a good way to start research and often have citations to primary sources. **These sources of law provide explanation to the primary sources. Secondary sources are a great place to begin your research**. Although the primary sources of law, case law, statutes, and regulations, establish the law on a given topic, it is often difficult to quickly locate answers in them. Secondary sources often **explain legal principles** more thoroughly than a single case or statute, so **using them can help you save time**. Secondary sources also help you avoid unnecessary research, since you are tapping into work that someone else has already done on an issue.